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file copies
Attended to.
Sent to:
E. Reich
A. Mauro
Neal Miller
Lee Rubin
on 11/24/80

CC: TS

Dear

I note that your laboratory has been involved in some aspect of cholinergic neurotransmission.

For that reason you may be interested in this communication from the Army.

I believe that this is a serious effort to support fundamental research, that it may be well funded, and that there will be a conscientious effort to avoid any problems of security classification and other administrative hindrances.

At the same time, deeper scientific insight may help the development of prophylaxis and antidotes to "nerve" chemical weapons. Such a blunting of cw effects would not only reduce casualties in the event of an attack on our forces or civilians: it would inherently reduce the risk that any one would initiate the use of these weapons (in violation of treaty pledges). A possible difficulty that has hardly been examined is the likelihood of genetic polymorphisms in the target systems. There is, of course, also the likelihood of spillover advantages in dealing with pesticide toxicity among farm workers.

If you have any interest in pursuing this opportunity, please contact Dr. Morthland directly; but I would appreciate an information copy.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg